ABSTRACT

~~A Method of Selectively Storing Images~~

~~A camera 1 comprises first and second camera systems 3, 5. The first camera system 3 is a high resolution camera which captures images (so-called 'key frames') at a relatively low rate, whilst the second camera system 5 is a low resolution camera which captures images (so-called 'video frames') at a higher rate. Accordingly, a plurality of video frames are captured between each key frame. An application program is provided, either in a PC 13 to which the frames are downloaded, or in the camera 1 itself. The main purpose of the application program is to decide which of the captured frames should be stored, and which should be discarded (i.e. by a deletion or replacement operation) thereby freeing up memory. This is performed by means of the application program performing an analysis of the image content in the frames, assigning a quality factor to the image content based on the composition quality of the image content, and updating memory to remove frames which have a quality factor indicating a lower composition quality than a subsequently captured frame. Thus, only those frames having 'interesting' content will be saved, and those frames which are poor in terms of their content or composition will not occupy memory if a better frame is identified. A system and method for selectively storing digital images in a memory are disclosed.~~ Briefly described, one embodiment is a method comprising storing, in the memory, a plurality of digital images received from the source, each image representing an event captured at a different respective time, using the processor to perform an analysis of the images, assigning a quality factor to each image, the quality factor being representative of the composition quality of the analysed images, and updating the memory to maintain images for which the assigned quality factor indicates a higher composition quality than an image captured at an earlier time.